

I claim:

1. A system for monitoring oil/fuel requirements comprising:
a customer database for the storage of information peculiar to the oil/fuel,
heating/cooling requirements of predetermined premises
oil/fuel storage tanks, oil/fuel quantity sensors, and data transmitting devices,
to generate customer premise status signals for updating said customer database.
a supplier database for the storage of information peculiar to the oil/fuel
inventory capabilities at pre-selected sources of oil/fuel,
a computer system for reviewing data from said customer and supplier
databases, and a program for polling said customer database periodically for
comparing the status of said customer premise status signals to a preprogrammed table
that stores an output or preprogrammed data indicative of predetermined minimum
oil/fuel levels for each premise, and said computer system generating a work order for
those premises identified as below that level.
2. The combination according to claim 1 further characterized by oil/fuel inventory
sensors, and transmitting devices, to generate supplier inventory signals for updating
said supplier database.
3. The combination according to claim 1 wherein said signals are transmitted at
least in part on the internet.
4. The combination according to claim 1 wherein said signals are transmitted at
least in part over telephone/data communication wiring common to the customers
premises for other purposes.
5. The combination according to claim 1 wherein said computer system is linked by
modems and telephone/data communication lines for operation from a location remote
from the computer system, the computer system comprising a server program to serve
several oil/fuel suppliers.

The combination according to claim 1 wherein said transmitting devices operate on radio frequency at least in part.

7. The combination according to claim 1 wherein said periodic comparison is also responsive to a manual input inquiry from the premises of the customer.

8. The combination according to claim 1 wherein said periodic polling can be accomplished from a location remote from the computer system, which remote location is selected from the group comprising the premises of the customer, the supplier serving that customer, and the location of foresaid computer system.

9. The combination according to claim 1 further comprising oil/fuel inventory sensors, and transmitting devices to generate supplier inventory signals to update said supplier database, and said program further including means for generating purchase orders for the supplier or suppliers identified as having oil/fuel inventories below a preprogrammed level.